

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LA PAZ 08437 202202Z

73

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 MCT-01 EB-07 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /051 W

----- 015333

P R 202155Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2817

INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LA PAZ 8437

ASUNCION FOR RSO

PANAMA FOR ELLIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC, BL

SUBJECT: THREAT AGAINST BRANIFF INTERNATIONAL, LA PAZ

1. BRANIFF INTERNATIONAL OFFICE REPORTED TO EMBASSY TODAY, OCTOBER 20, 1976, RECEIPT OF SABOTAGE THREAT IN FORM OF TWO-PAGE HANDWRITTEN LETTER SLIPPED UNDER DOOR LAST EVENING. LETTER, WHICH BRANIFF MANAGER JULIO QUIROGA DELIVERED TO EMBASSY, CARRIES DEMAND FOR \$100,000 AND HOLDS BRANIFF RESPONSIBLE FOR AIR CRASH IN SANTA CRUZ OCTOBER 13 IN WHICH 106 PERSONS WERE KILLED BY CRASH ON TAKEOFF OF EMPTY BOEING CARGO AIRCRAFT LEASED TO LLOYD AERO BOLIVIANA. LETTER PURPORTS TO BE WRITTEN ON BEHALF OF VICTIMS AND THREATENS SABOTAGE OF BRANIFF AIRCRAFT AND KIDNAPPING, TORTURE AND DEATH OF BRANIFF AMERICAN EMPLOYEES EACH 24 HOURS UNTIL DEMAND FOR CASH IS MET.

2. EMBOFF VISITED CHIEF OF NATIONAL POLICE AND MININTERIOR CHIEF OF INTELLIGENCE WITH QUIROGA THIS MORNING TO REPORT INCIDENT. POLICE AND INTELLIGENCE, WHILE TREATING MATTER WITH SERIOUSNESS AND PLEDGING COOPERATION, DOWNPLAY ABILITY OF TERRORIST OR TERRORIST GROUP TO CARRY OUT THREAT. LETTER INSTRUCTS BRANIFF TO PLACE NOTICE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LA PAZ 08437 202202Z

IN NEWSPAPER OCT 21 WITH BRANIFF TELEPHONE NUMBER WHICH

WRITER CAN CALL TO ARRANGE TRANSFER OF CASH DEMANDED.
BRANIFF INSTRUCTED BY POLICE TO COMPLY IN PUBLISHING
NOTICE. POLICE WILL TAP LINE AND FOLLOW UP. LETTER
FURTHER STATES THAT SECOND LETTER WILL BE DELIVERED TO
AMBASSADOR.

3. MISSION SECURITY WATCH COMMITTEE MET AFTERNOON OCT 20
TO DISCUSS LETTER. CONSENSUS IS THAT WHILE THREAT
TO BE TAKEN IN UTMOST SERIOUSNESS WITH NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS
AND VIGILANCE, PERPETRATOR(S) IS UNEXPERIENCED AND UNABLE
CARRY THROUGH. POST IS PUBLISHING FOR AMERICAN EMPLOYEES
A GENERAL REMINDER OF ANTI-TERRORIST GUIDELINES WITHOUT
REFERENCE TO THIS SPECIFIC INCIDENT.
STEDMAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 OCT 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LAPAZ08437
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760394-0032
From: LA PAZ
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761034/aaaabcqo.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 JUL 2004 by ellisoob>; RELEASED <09 JUL 2004 by ellisoob>; APPROVED <25 OCT 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THREAT AGAINST BRANIFF INTERNATIONAL, LA PAZ
TAGS: ASEC, BL
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006